

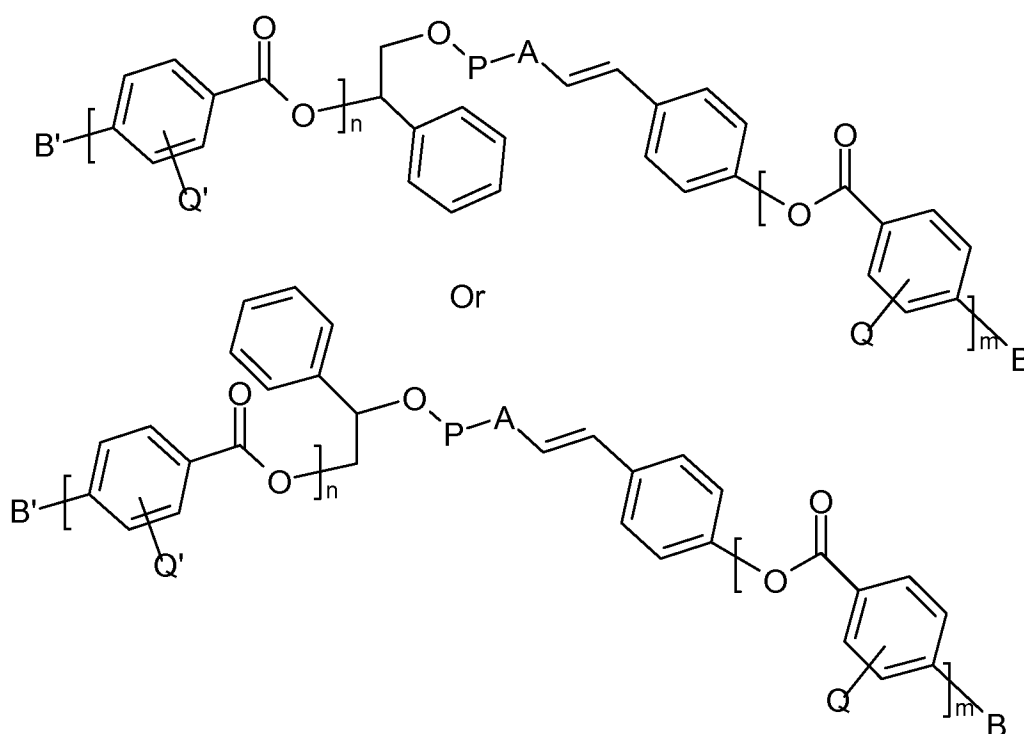
Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A phenylethanediol derivative, characterized in that the phenylethanediol derivative comprises at least one photo-convertible group suitable for adjusting the helical twisting power of the phenylethanediol derivative, wherein the phenylethanediol has the formula



wherein

A stands for a bond or a p-phenylene group;

B and B' are independently $(O)_p-C_{10}H_{20}-O-CO-CR'=CH_2$, o being 2-12, p being 0 or 1, and R' being H or CH_3 ;

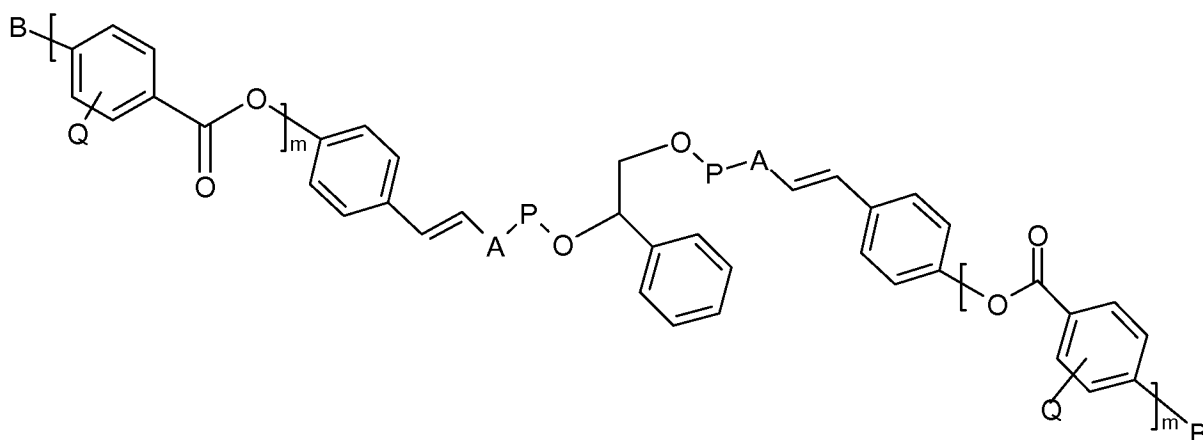
P stands for a CH₂ or a C=O group;

Q and Q' are independently selected from H, C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C3 alkoxy, halogen, and CN:

n is an integer from 1 to 3; and

m is an integer from 0 to 2.

7. (Previously presented) A phenylethanol derivative, characterized in that the phenylethanol derivative comprises at least one photo-convertible group suitable for adjusting the helical twisting power of the phenylethanol derivative, wherein the phenylethanol has the formula



wherein

A stands for a bond or a p-phenylene group;

B is $(O)_p-C_0H_{20}-O-CO-CR'=CH_2$, o being 2-12, p is 1, and R' being H or CH_3 ;

P stands for a CH₂ or a C=O group;

Q is selected from H, C1-C3 alkyl, C1-C3 alkoxy, halogen, and CN; and

m is an integer from 0 to 2.

8. (Previously presented) A method for the preparation of the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 6 by the steps of a) synthesizing a 2-hydroxy ether-protected phenylethanediol, b) followed by etherification or esterification of the 1-hydroxy group of the 2-hydroxy ether-protected phenylethanediol with an alcohol (or derivative thereof) or acid, respectively, optionally comprising polymerizable and/or photo-convertible groups, c) then cleaving the ether-protective group to obtain a phenylethanediol derivative with a free 2-hydroxy group, and optionally d) esterification of the free 2-hydroxy group with an acid which optionally comprises one or more polymerizable and/or photo-convertible groups.

9. (Previously presented) A cholesteric composition comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 6.

10. (Previously presented) An optical element comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 6.

11. (Previously presented) An optical color filter comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 6.

12 (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A cholesteric composition comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 7.

14. (Previously presented) An optical element comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 7.

15. (Previously presented) An optical color filter comprising the phenylethanediol derivative of claim 7.